

OPERATION OF GOVERNMENT RADIO STATIONS FOR PRESS MESSAGES

JANUARY 30, 1925.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. FREE, from the Committee on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. J. Res. 334]

The Committee on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries, having had under consideration House Joint Resolution 334, reports the same to the House with the recommendation that it pass.

This resolution amends section 2 of the public resolution entitled "Joint resolution to authorize the operation of Government-owned radio stations for the use of the general public, and for other purposes," approved April 14, 1922. That resolution read as follows:

JOINT RESOLUTION To amend section 2 of the joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution to authorize the operation of Government-owned radio stations for the use of the general public, and for other purposes," approved June 5, 1920

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 2 of the joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution to authorize the operation of Government-owned radio stations for the use of the general public, and for other purposes," approved June 5, 1920, be, and the same is hereby, amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. That the Secretary of the Navy is hereby authorized, under the terms and conditions and at rates prescribed by him, which rates shall be just and reasonable, and which, upon complaint, shall be subject to review and revision by the Interstate Commerce Commission, to use all radio stations and apparatus, wherever located, owned by the United States and under the control of the Navy Department—(a) for the reception and transmission of press messages offered by any newspaper published in the United States, its Territories or possessions, or published by citizens of the United States, in foreign countries, or by any press association of the United States; and (b) for the reception and transmission of private commercial messages: *Provided*, That the rates fixed for the reception and transmission of all such messages, other than press messages between the Pacific coast of the United States, Hawaii, Alaska, and the Orient, shall not be less than the rates charged by privately owned and operated stations for like messages and service: *Provided further*, That the right to use such stations for any of the purposes named in this section, except for the reception and transmission of press messages, other than press messages between the Atlantic coast of the United

States and ships at sea, shall terminate and cease as between any countries or localities or between any locality and privately operated ships, whenever privately owned and operated stations are capable of meeting the normal communication requirements between such countries or localities or between any locality and privately operated ships, and the Secretary of Commerce shall have notified the Secretary of the Navy thereof, and all rights conferred by this section shall terminate and cease on June 30, 1925, except that all such rights conferred by this section in the Republic of China shall terminate and cease on January 1, 1924."

House Joint Resolution 334 permits the use of Government radio for the transmission of news in the Pacific and to the Virgin Islands, and commercial messages between ship and ship and between ship and shore, to June 30, 1927, unless privately owned and operated stations capable of meeting normal communication requirements are sooner installed.

